TIM. When there is nothing living but thee, thou shalt be welcome. I had rather be a beggar's dog, than Apemantus.

APEM. Thou art the cap of all the fools alive [6].

TIM. 'Would thou wert clean enough to spit upon.

APEM. A plague on thee, thou art too bad to curse [7].

TIM. All villains, that do stand by thee, are pure[8].

*APEM** There is no leprosy but what thou speak'st.

TIM. If I name thee.— 111 beat thee,—but I should infect my hands.

APEM. I would, my tongue could rot them off!

TIM. Away, thou issue of a mangy dog! Choler does kill me, that thou art alive; I swoon to see thee.

APEM. 'Would thou would'st burst!

TIM.

Away,
Thou tedious rogue ! I am sorry, I shall lose
A stone by thee. *[Throws a Stone at him.*

[6] Thou art the cap, &c.] The *top,* the *principal.* The re
maining dialogue has more malignity than wit. JOHNSON.

Dr. Johnson's explication is, I think, right; but I believe our author had also *ihefooPs cap* in his thoughts. MALONE.

In Airs Well That Ends Well, " the *cap* of the time,'* apparently means—the foremost in the fashion. STEEVENS.

7 *Apem.* A plague on thee, thou art too bad to curse.] Thus
tl e old copies, and, I think, rightly. Mr, Theobald, however,
is of a contrary opinion; for,, according to the present regulation,
says he, Apemantus is " made to curse Timon, and immediately
to subjoin that he was too bad to curse.'* He would therefore
give the former part of the line to Timon. STEEVENS.

[8] All villains, that do stand by thee, are pure. The same sen*
timent is repeated in King Lear:

[tf] Those wicked creatures yet do look well-favour'd, " When others are more wicked." STEEVENS.